

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2015
WEST SAYVILLE GOLF COURSE, MEADOWEDGE
WEST SAYVILLE, NEW YORK**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Gilbert Cardillo	Trustee, Town of Riverhead
Kathleen Gooding	Vice Chair, Town of Shelter Island
Dawn Hopkins	Chair, Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
Debra Kolyer	Member of the Board
Peter Leis	Trustee, Town of Islip
Arthur Leudesdorf	Trustee, Town of Southold
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
Michael Rosato	Trustee, Town of Smithtown

ABSENT

Terence McSweeney	Trustee, Town of Babylon
Terrence Pearsall	Member of the Board
William B. Sickles	Trustee, Town of Southampton
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton
VACANT	Member at Large

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Greg Dawson	Commissioner
Nick Gibbons	Principal Environmental Analyst
Terry Maccarrone	Coordinator of Community-Based Programs
Barbara Rittman	Senior Clerk Typist

GUESTS

Miles Borden	Former Parks Trustee, Town of Smithtown
Christina DeLisi	Legislative Aide to Dep. Presiding Off. Jay Schneiderman
Chris DeLuca	Aide to Legislator Thomas Cilmi

PUBLIC PORTION

John Palasek, representing the South Yaphank Civic Association spoke regarding the Trap & Skeet Range. He asked that a pause (stay) be considered and taken in the running of the range until the court makes a determination and a possible alternative location is explored.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2015

Page 3, 5th & 6th paragraph:

A motion to approve the fee increase schedule at County Parks was made by Trustee Borden and seconded by Trustee McKay. **It was approved by a vote of 10-1-0.**

Trustee Cardillo stated that he actually voted no, feeling he needed more time to review the fee increase schedule.

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Trustee McKay and seconded by Trustee Cardillo. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Dawson reported that he received an email letter yesterday regarding the Trap & Skeet Range from Doug and Joanne Steigerwald, local constituents who could not be at the meeting. It was requested that the letter be brought to the attention of the Parks Board of Trustees and a copy of the letter was distributed for their review.

Legislatively, there was a meeting on Tuesday, 12/15 and Commissioner Dawson was pleased to report that the last three capital appropriations for the year all passed. These appropriations will go toward needed campground improvements, planning funds for the Coindre Hall boathouse, and historic services which will include a new roof on the Cedar Island Lighthouse.

Commissioner Dawson presented Miles Borden, former Parks Trustee representing the Town of Smithtown with a proclamation of appreciation for his many years of dedication and service to the Parks Department, Town of Smithtown and Suffolk County.

Commissioner Dawson wished all a happy holiday, Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Hopkins inquired about IR 1767 for improvement of wastewater treatment in county parks which was to go to the Legislature on December 1st. Commissioner Dawson reported that the amended version of the bill which gives the Commissioner more latitude in targeting high priority sites passed.

Chair Hopkins requested an update on a meeting requested by the Yaphank Civic Association pertaining to the Trap & Skeet Range. Commissioner Dawson reported that County Executive Bellone met with members of the community and Josh Slaughter (Legislative Aide for Leg. Kate Browning) to convey their thoughts on the issue and requested an update on the pending case. Commissioner Dawson is compiling data on it to report back to the County Executive. Chair Hopkins stated that the NYS Supreme Court judge determined that the Brookhaven Noise Ordinance was constitutional and enforceable.

Nick Gibbons reported that the dredging project has been progressing smoothly, thanks to good weather. The project should be completed by mid-March.

Terry Maccarrone reported that restoration of the gardens and irrigation system at Sagtikos Manor has begun and is progressing very well. The irrigation system at West Sayville GC is finishing up and the pump house is in the process of being built. The well has been dug and once the pump house is ready, the well head will go on top.

Commissioner Dawson reported that Parks is building an ADA compliant playground next to the Cherry Avenue Dog Park in Sayville. The playground and sidewalk are already in and the top coating of safety surfacing will be completed on Saturday. A dedication ceremony will be planned for the spring.

ROUND TABLE

Trustee Leudesdorf requested a list of actions taken by the Legislature regarding the Cornell Cooperative contract and also funding for Peconic Dunes CP. Commissioner Dawson stated that the contracts can take up to

a year to negotiate. There are already funds for planning at Peconic Dunes to build a new dining hall and there are funds budgeted (adopted, but not appropriated) for construction in 2017-18.

Nick Gibbons reported that Parks is progressing nicely on a Hubbard CP Master Plan. A grant has been in place for several years that was established through Assemblyman Englebright. Nick and Richard Martin are working together with a consultant on the project. A natural resources inventory is also being done on the property which is protected by many layers of regulatory authority including the NYSDEC, Central Pine Barrens Core Preservation Area and Suffolk County's own self-imposed acquisition programs. The downtown area is on Paumanok Path, where there is a gristmill on site and many other historic features.

Nick confirmed that the Brookhaven range is located in the core Pine Barrens preservation area.

Legislative Aide Christina DeLisi reported that Legislator Schneiderman's schedule did not allow for him to attend the meeting but that during his tenure, he served as the Parks Committee Chairman, he held Environment and Planning assignments, and Public Works assignments before returning to Parks. He has enjoyed working with the Parks Trustees, several different Commissioners and Staff over the years and extended his thanks and appreciation.

Legislative Aide Chris DeLuca extended Merry Christmas and Happy New Year wishes to all, on behalf of Legislator Cilmi and himself.

Terry Maccarrone wished all a Merry Christmas.

Trustee Rosato reported that Legislator Trotta would like to purchase some open space in his district but unfortunately Smithtown doesn't have an Open Space Program so funding is impossible. Over the past several months Trustee Rosato has made a presentation to each member of the Town Board in an effort to convince them to start an Open Space Program through a referendum. He had hoped to get it on the ballot this past November but unfortunately was unsuccessful. He stated that he is unsure if the Parks Trustees could offer any leverage in an effort to get this accomplished and that he will continue to explore different avenues over the coming year to get this program established. Commissioner Dawson stated that there is a possibility of town/county joint acquisitions.

Trustee Gooding extended Happy Holiday wishes.

Trustee McKay asked Christina DeLisi to extend congratulations to Legislator Schneiderman and to thank him for his interest and support of the Parks Trustees during his tenure as Legislator. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year was wished.

Trustee Cardillo wished all Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Dawson stated that Trustee White had a conflict in schedule and was unable to attend the meeting but asked to extend his congratulations to Miles Borden. Commissioner Dawson added his appreciation to Legislator Schneiderman for all of his support.

The next Parks Trustee meeting will be held at Meadowedge in West Sayville on Thursday, January 21, 2016.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee McKay and was seconded by Trustee Leis. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.